

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Thursday , January 25, 2018 • 8:00 a.m. • 210 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, House Chair
Rep. Scott H. Chew, House Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Don L. Ipson
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Stephen G. Handy

Rep. Karen Kwan
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers
Rep. Keven J. Stratton
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Sen. Ralph Okerlund

Staff Present:

Mr. Ivan D. Djambov, Fiscal Analyst
Mr. Alexander R. Wilson, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Katiemarie Harmon, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

1 . Department of Agriculture and Food Base Budget

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, Office of Legislative Affairs (LFA), introduced the posted materials for today's meeting.

Mr. Djambov gave a presentation on the Department of Agriculture and Food's budget.

Mr. Djambov gave a presentation on the Compendium of Budget Information (COBI) and past performance measures.

Rep. Chew commented on brand renewal and the budget surplus.

Mr. Djambov answered a question from Rep. Noel about the accounts.

Sen. Hinkins commented on fee increases and registration revenue.

Mr. Djambov answered a question from Rep. Sagers about revenue sources.

Mr. Djambov presented "Department of Agriculture and Food, State Funds Reduction Concepts."

[2-Department of Agriculture and Food, State Funds Reduction Concepts](#)

Mr. Djambov discussed ways to decrease costs to save funds.

Mr. Djambov answered a question from Rep. Stratton about the possible re-allocations on the line items.

Rep. Sagers asked a question about the restricted fund.

Rep. Handy commented on "above and below the line" budget items.

Mr. Djambov introduced the list of options to consider for reallocations. He also suggested questions that the committee should consider regarding the ongoing funding.

Mr. Djambov answered a question from Rep. Noel concerning the potential funding cuts and federal funds.

Ms. LuAnn Adams, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Food, introduced the presentation on the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), grazing improvement, and brand inspections.

Mr. Scott Erickson, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Food, gave the presentation.

Mr. Erickson and Ms. Adams answered questions from Rep. Noel, Sen. Hinkins, and Sen. Dayton about FSMA.

Rep. Handy spoke about his recent interaction with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Rep. Stratton commented on the producers being regulated by FSMA. Mr. Erickson and Ms. Adams provided clarification.

Rep. Noel asked for more clarification from Mr. Erickson and Ms. Adams about the \$25,000 threshold and the exemptions.

Mr. Cody James, Division Director, Department of Agriculture and Food, presented on brand inspections and the program costs.

Ms. Adams and Mr. James answered questions from Sen. Dayton about hiring an additional inspector and overtime costs.

Mr. James answered questions from Rep. Stratton and Rep. Christofferson.

2 . Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Base Budget

Mr. Alex Wilson, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, gave an overview of COBI and performance measures. He also introduced "PLCO, State Funds Reduction Concepts."

[3b-PLPCO, State Funds Reduction Concepts](#)

Mr. Wilson spoke on potential funds reduction.

Rep. Noel spoke on the potential reductions and suggested that the committee should not reduce funds to PLPCO.

Rep. Christofferson recommended improving services by cutting costs in other areas.

Sen. Hinkins explained that the state adopts certain counties because the counties lack the necessary funds.

Ms. Carmen Bailey, Assistant Director, Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, gave a presentation on the organization.

[3a-PLPCO Presentation](#)

Ms. Bailey gave a performance report.

Ms. Bailey answered a question from Rep. Sagers.

3 . Division of Parks and Recreation Base Budget

Mr. Djambov presented on the parks' line items in the base budget bill and the corresponding supplemental information in COBI.

Mr. Fred Hayes, Director, Division of Parks and Recreation, responded to a question from Sen. Hinkins about annual pass revenue.

Mr. Djambov introduced, "Parks and Recreation, State Funds Reduction Concepts" and showed the parks that are profitable and those with a deficit.

[4a-Parks and Recreation, State Funds Reduction Concepts](#)

Mr. Djambov answered questions from Rep. Stratton about parks' items on the list of options to consider for reallocations.

Mr. Hayes answered questions from Rep. Stratton about Dead Horse Point Campground and This is the Place Heritage Park, and the golf course subsidies.

Rep. Stratton commented that either all the golf courses need to be privatized or none of them.

Mr. Djambov answered a question from Rep. Noel about the golf courses with the highest deficits.

Mr. Hayes explained that they are looking to privatize certain golf courses. He also commented that a large portion of many golf courses deficits are attributed to the bond payments.

Mr. Hayes answered additional questions from Rep. Noel about off-highway vehicles (OHV) maintenance and State Parks.

Rep. Sagers commented he would like to see if the bonds on the golf courses can be paid off early.

Mr. Hayes answered a question from Sen. Dayton on the increased costs for museums and if the federal government would be helping to pay for the incurred costs.

Sen. Ipson commented he would like to see an operating system sheet on the golf courses without the bond statement to have a better understanding of their profitability.

Mr. Hayes gave a presentation on the State Parks.

[4b-Parks Presentation](#)

Rep. Stratton requested to keep costs down to the public if possible.

Ms. Adams addressed items pertaining to the Department of Agriculture and Food that are on the list of options to consider for reallocations.

MOTION: Rep. Stratton moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 5 .

Yeas-14

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. S. Barlow
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. K. Christofferson
Sen. M. Dayton
Rep. S. Duckworth
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. D. Hinkins
Sen. D. Ipson
Rep. M. Noel
Rep. L. Perry
Rep. D. Sagers
Rep. K. Stratton

Nays-0

Absent-5

Sen. J. Dabakis
Sen. P. Knudson
Rep. K. Kwan
Sen. R. Okerlund
Sen. E. Vickers

Rep. C. Watkins

Chair Barlow adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.